

Nursing Workforce Advisory Council
Conference Call
Minutes – January 17, 2008

Council Chair B.J. Swanson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. announcing that the purpose of the meeting was to approve a research agenda for the year. Chair Swanson introduced Georgia Smith who introduced the process and outputs from a survey designed to identify priority for research questions. Ms. Smith thanked the Data Committee and other members who provided input into the survey questions. She noted that the process began by soliciting input from each of the committees and brainstorming potential data points. All questions were sent to committee members for their input and ultimately consolidated into a survey shared with council members to identify priorities.

Ms. Smith introduced Sara Gieseke and her team member Teresa Hammer from the Department of Labor as well as Dr. Bonnie Lind and Carissa Miller from the Boise State Nursing Workforce Center.

Ms. Gieseke and Dr. Lind reviewed the survey priorities and asked for comments. They explained that all questions would be asked but that some questions would be more difficult and time consuming than others. A member offered that salaries should not be a primary focus. They asked to consider whether there are any significant differences in training between rural and urban settings. Council members also asked if it was possible to regionalize the data and if data was available to inform the supply issue on a regional basis. A member offered that the issue is statewide and that the focus should be on statewide demand for nurses.

Chair Swanson pointed out that the council needs to approve the survey and develop a budget as soon as possible to implement the survey. Council members agreed that while looking at the entire state, the focus should be on regional supply and demand. The legislature needs more comprehensive information on a regional level. The annual vacancy survey performed by the Idaho Hospital Association could be used to support the demand question.

The council turned to a discussion of alternative education asking that members explore other models and look at non-traditional approaches to nurse education, particularly in clinical settings. The group agreed to add questions from the Alternative Education Committee to round out the survey.

With these additions, the council approved the survey for implementation by staff from the Department of Labor and the BSU Nursing Workforce Center. Staff agreed to provide survey information by June to allow the council time to begin development of their recommendations. Ms. Smith offered that at least 75 percent of the questions can be offered by that date.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Attendance:

Members:

Dr. Carol Ashton
Ms. Susan Ault
Dr. Claudeen Buettner
Ms. Manuelita Burns
Ms. Noreen Davis
Dr. Tony Fernandez
Rep. Margaret Henbest
Mr. Roger Madsen
Ms. Kathleen Nelson
Ms. Tammy Perkins
Dr. Pamela Springer
Ms. B.J. Swanson
Mr. Robert Vande Merwe
Ms. Jewels Carpenter for Dr. Mike Rush

Staff and Guests:

Georgia Smith
Bob Uhlenkott
Sara Gieseke
Teresa Hammer
Bonnie Lind
Carissa Miller
Cheryl Brush